

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01956 180054Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 AF-10 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 H-01 /058 W  
-----180646Z 124492 /12  
R 172240Z JUN 77  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4096  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM  
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS AT OAU SUMMIT

1. IN CONNECTION WITH US ATTENDANCE AS OBSERVERS AT OAU SUMMIT, MISSION SUGGESTS THAT US REPS USE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE INFORMALLY WITH OAU MEMBERS AND SECRETARIAT POSSIBLE WAYS OF IMPROVING THE OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE REGION.

2. AS DEPT AWARE, WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH SPECIFIC CASES OF PURPORTED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OF HIGH VISIBILITY (E.G., UGANDA, GUINEA). OUR EXPERIENCE AT THE LAST SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AND IN SUBSEQUENT UN FORA SUGGESTS THAT MANY AFRICAN COUNTRIES SHARE OUR COMMITMENT IN THIS AREA BUT ARE RELUCTANT TO CONDEMN BROTHER STATES IN INTERNATIONAL FORA. THE RESULTING IMPASSE DOES DISSERVICE TO EXISTING INSTITUTIONS AND HAS LITTLE IF ANY IMPACT ON SITUATIONS.

3. THE POINT OF THE INFORMAL DIALOGUE AT THE OAU SUMMIT WOULD BE TO RE-EMPHASIZE THE USG COMMITMENT TO THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, TO SEEK A COMMON UNDERSTANDING ON THE BASIC CONCEPTS INVOLVED, AND TO ELICIT VIEWS ON

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HOW PROGRESS CAN BE ACHIEVED IN THIS AREA. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE OAU SUMMIT IS THE APPROPRIATE PLACE TO PUSH ANY SPECIFIC USG PROPOSAL TO STRENGTHEN THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY BUT WOULD NOT PRECLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT DISCUSSION MIGHT NATURALLY TURN TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS ADVANCED BY PRESIDENT CARTER IN HIS SPEECH BEFORE THE UN. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST

WOULD BE ANY THOUGHTS ABOUT GREATER OAU INVOLVEMENT IN  
HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES.  
MCHENRY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, HUMAN RIGHTS, MEETING OBSERVERS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SUMMIT MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977USUNN01956  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770218-0491  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** USUN NEW YORK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770643/aaaablse.tel  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 2a73827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2106061  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HUMAN RIGHTS AT OAU SUMMIT  
**TAGS:** SHUM, PORG, XA, US, OAU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/2a73827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009